



## Transition Year Trip to Italian Cookery School

On the 8th of October 2019 we visited the Italian Cookery School at Pinocchio's restaurant in Temple Bar in Dublin's city centre. When we arrived, we were greeted with smiles and made to feel extremely welcome. We broke into small groups of four or five, washed up and put our aprons on. We were then shown how to make traditional pizza dough. We were taught how to make some famous Italian pizzas such as calzones, margarita and pizza bianca. We chose our favourite toppings and sent them off to the kitchen for cooking. The staff were friendly and very helpful.



When the pizzas were cooked, we sat down together and enjoyed the fruits of our hard labour! They were amazing. We had the option to take home any pizza that we didn't eat. After the trip the restaurant sent us the recipes to try ourselves at home, which I thought was a very good idea. I highly recommend this place. *Delizioso! - Ross Campbell*

## Plans for Planter Boxes in Transition Year

Transition year students have decided to design and make planter boxes as part of our Construction Studies class. A planter box is a box, usually wooden, which contains plant life and soil. It helps remove different contaminants from ground water.

We plan to link the boxes to the gutter and down pipes at the front of the school. We can then re-distribute the rainwater into the planter boxes. We also plan to introduce a rain garden to the side of the schoolyard to collect rainwater. We will plant a collection of plants and shrubs. They will absorb the surface water and filter it before it runs into the ground.

We choose this group project for environmental reasons. It will hopefully help to reduce ground water pollution and reduce contaminants within the Santry River. The smaller rain garden on the side of the school will help produce more oxygen and leave the soil less saturated.

This will hopefully be a long-term project for our class. We have applied to the Dublin City Council Local Action 21 Project for funding and are currently awaiting their response. Six students have been chosen to help prepare and present a short film about the aspects of our project for a competition with SEAL. Wish us luck! - *Alex Shevlin*

## Transition Years attend Forensic Workshop

This year we took part in a fantastic forensic workshop run by 'Forensics is Fun'. The workshop centred around the assassination of John F Kennedy. There were multiple things to do throughout the workshop. There was a virtual reality re-enactment of the assassination, a board game, fingerprinting, hand checks for gun residue, autopsy report and the chance to listen to the court case.

The virtual reality segment was definitely my favorite part. For the autopsy report we had to ponder questions such as the weight of an average human brain. At the end of the workshop we could take photographs of ourselves in body bags or in forensic suits. It gave me an insight into the world of forensic science and also made me curious about an historical event that continues to intrigue people to this day!- *Nathan Norris*